

BroadbandUSA: Guide to Federal Funding of Broadband Projects

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OVERVIEW

“Broadband is a path to the future and ... it is a very essential component of economic policy ...”

—Commerce Secretary Nominee Wilbur Ross,
Senate Commerce Committee, January 18, 2017

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s (NTIA) BroadbandUSA program has compiled this guide of federal funding programs for broadband-related projects. The guide highlights programs from federal agencies and provides communities and interested parties with agency-approved information about the programs and application procedures. The available federal programs can fund projects related to broadband planning, public access, digital literacy and deployment. This guide is not intended to provide a comprehensive scan of all available options to fund broadband projects, but it does cover many of the most common sources of federal support.

Funding for broadband projects is available through a diverse array of federal agencies, and each program has specific requirements, eligibility and application processes. The description of each program in this document includes the purpose of the program, potential restrictions on funding and rules for eligibility.

To ensure up-to-date information, communities and interested parties should also examine agency websites and review the most recent funding announcements to determine if funding opportunities match their needs. BroadbandUSA will also update this guide periodically, so be sure to obtain the latest version at: http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/files/broadband_fed_funding_guide.pdf.

NTIA’s BroadbandUSA program is dedicated to helping communities achieve their broadband goals and working with you to determine if funding is

About BroadbandUSA

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s (NTIA) BroadbandUSA program promotes innovation and economic growth by supporting efforts to expand broadband access and meaningful use across America. BroadbandUSA serves communities, industry and nonprofits that want to expand broadband infrastructure and promote digital inclusion. BroadbandUSA’s services are driven by the needs and interests of state and local broadband leaders, and focus on supporting planning efforts, helping to identify funding and implementing local broadband programs.

BroadbandUSA also holds regional workshops that bring local stakeholders together and provides solution-neutral guides and tools. These efforts equip state and local leaders with information to make key decisions, guidance on how to use broadband to meet their community’s needs, and connections to federal, state and industry stakeholders to advance their overarching goals such as economic development, job creation, educational outcomes, healthcare delivery and public safety. If you are interested in receiving assistance from BroadbandUSA, please contact us at broadbandusa@ntia.doc.gov or 202-482-2048.

Guides and Toolkits:

BroadbandUSA has developed guides and toolkits for communities that desire robust broadband services and the digital literacy skills needed to be competitive in today’s global economy. These publications provide practical advice for developing programs that will successfully meet communities’ current and future broadband needs. For more information on the toolkits, consult the Resources section of the BroadbandUSA website here: <https://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>.

available to meet a specific community’s needs. If you have additional questions about the information contained in this guide, please contact us at broadbandusa@ntia.doc.gov or 202-482-2048.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The following agencies have programs that may fund projects involving broadband infrastructure, adoption, access, planning or research. Each of these agencies is involved in the federal Broadband Interagency Working Group (BIWG). NTIA co-chairs the BIWG and works with its interagency partners to improve coordination across programs, reduce regulatory barriers to broadband deployment, and promote awareness of the value of federal support for broadband investment and digital inclusion programs. Additionally, the BIWG collects and shares information with communities about available federal resources related to broadband deployment and digital inclusion efforts.

More detailed information on these programs follows this table.

	Infrastructure Development	Adoption and Digital Literacy	Public Computer Access	Planning	Research	Other
Appalachian Regional Commission						
Telecommunications and Technology Program	X	X	X	X		
Federal Communications Commission						
Connect America Fund (High-Cost Program)	X					
E-Rate (Schools and Libraries) Program	X		X			
Rural Health Care (RHC) Program	X					
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service						
Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees	X					
Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees	X					
Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) Provisions	X					
Community Connect Grant Program	X	X	X			
Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program		X				X (Equipment)
U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration						
Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs	X			X		
Planning and Local Technical Assistance Programs				X		

	Infrastructure Development	Adoption and Digital Literacy	Public Computer Access	Planning	Research	Other
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development						
Community Development Block Grants and Section 108 Loan Guarantees	X	X	X	X		
Funds for Public Housing Authorities: Capital Fund and Operating Fund		X	X	X		
Multifamily Housing		X	X	X		
Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program	X					X (Housing)
Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program	X			X		X (Housing)
Title VI Loan Guarantee Program	X					X (Housing)
Choice Neighborhoods	X	X		X		
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)						X (Housing)
Housing Trust Fund (HTF)						X (Housing)
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)		X				
U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration						
American Job Centers		X				X (Job Training)
Institute of Museum and Library Services, Office of Library Services						
Native American Library Services Basic Grants	X	X	X			
Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants	X	X	X			
Native Hawaiian Library Services Grants	X	X	X			
Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program		X		X	X	
National Leadership Grants for Libraries		X		X	X	
Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries		X				

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

Additional Federal Support

Broadband planning, deployment, access and adoption can also fall within the scope of other federal programs but may not be specifically categorized as a broadband funding opportunity. These programs include those that support economic and workforce development, healthcare or education. A valuable resource for exploring other funding options is the federal government's central funding portal, www.grants.gov. This portal makes information available on all federal grant programs through a keyword search. The portal also allows users to narrow their search by the status of the opportunity (e.g., open, closed or archived), funding instrument type, type of eligible applicant, programmatic category and federal agency. In searching for opportunities on [grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), potential applicants should think beyond the word "broadband" and consider that broadband is a tool that can facilitate a range of programmatic goals. For example, if a program funds training for workforce development, promoting broadband adoption and public access to computers may be a way to meet the purposes of that program; if a program funds assistance to businesses, a business may propose increased broadband access within the purposes and requirements of that program. *The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance* at <https://www.cfda.gov> is also a good source for all federal assistance programs.

Other Sources of Funding

There are also many potential sources of funding for broadband-related projects outside of the federal government. Many broadband projects use several funding sources, including private internet service provider (ISP) funding. Communities should consider working with their local ISPs to explore additional funding sources while also researching state grants and local resources, such as foundations or nonprofits. Just as with government funding, it is useful to consider the project scope broadly, knowing that a targeted funder may support a broadband project if the goals of that project intersect with the goals of that funder. Consider that broadband is not an end in and of itself but rather a tool for achieving other public policy goals, such as improving education, increasing employment and driving economic development.

Regardless of the source, organizations that provide funds — federal, state, local, private or nonprofit — usually share three common concerns when evaluating applications for funding. They want to review proposals for projects that are **(1)** well-planned, **(2)** broadly supported and **(3)** likely to succeed. While this funding guide is a first step for communities trying to determine if federal funding will help them meet their broadband goals, it is critical for a community to develop project plans that meet these criteria before applying for funding. Consult BroadbandUSA's website for additional resources, such as technical assistance, toolkits and guides, that can help your community create successful proposals.

FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAM INFORMATION



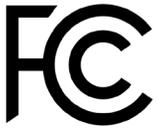
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Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Telecommunications and Technology Program

Program Overview	<p>The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a regional economic development agency that represents a partnership of federal, state and local governments. Established by an act of Congress in 1965, ARC is composed of the governors of the 13 Appalachian states and a federal co-chair, who is appointed by the president. Local participation is provided through multi-county local development districts. The Appalachian Region, as defined in ARC's authorizing legislation, is a 205,000 square mile region that follows the spine of the Appalachian Mountains from southern New York to northern Mississippi. It includes all of West Virginia and parts of 12 other states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. There are 420 counties in the Region representing more than 25 million people. Forty-two percent of the Region's population is rural, compared with 20 percent of the national population.</p>	
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Broadband Benefits	<p>Each year, ARC provides grant funding for several hundred projects in the Appalachian Region in areas such as business development, education, job training, health, telecommunications, infrastructure, community development and transportation. These projects create thousands of new jobs; improve local water and sewer systems; increase school readiness; expand access to healthcare; assist local communities with strategic planning; and provide technical and managerial assistance to emerging businesses. In the Telecommunications and Technology segment, ARC awards grants for a variety of activities. These activities include small broadband deployment projects, such as fiber runs to industrial parks, installing wireless broadband in underserved and unserved areas and assistance with telehealth projects. These projects also deploy equipment, systems and networking, install Wi-Fi networks in downtown business districts, assist with computers in schools and libraries, advise local municipalities on technology related projects and conduct numerous feasibility studies on community broadband requirements. Many projects involve fiber deployments to local schools.</p>	
Additional Information	<p>ARC Broadband Service Toolkit: https://www.arc.gov/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=574 Funds allocated to Broadband expansion: https://www.arc.gov/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=570 Broadband Toolkit: https://www.arc.gov/images/programs/telecom/ARCBroadbandPlanningPrimerToolkit.pdf</p>	



Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

Connect America Fund (High-Cost Program)	
Program Overview	The Connect America Fund reduces the cost of operating and extending infrastructure (both fixed and mobile) to serve consumers and small businesses in rural, high-cost areas. A recipient of funding must be designated an “eligible telecommunications carrier” by the relevant state or, in cases in which the state does not have jurisdiction over a particular type of provider, the Federal Communications Commission.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Broadband Benefits	<p>In August 2015, the FCC’s Wireline Competition Bureau announced that 10 telecommunications carriers accepted over \$1.5 billion in Connect American Phase II support for rural broadband deployment to serve over 3.6 million homes and businesses in 45 states and one U.S. territory by the end of 2020. In areas in which that support was declined and in other unserved areas nationwide, the Commission will hold the Connect America Phase II auction through which eligible service providers will compete to receive support of up to \$1.98 billion over a 10-year support term to offer voice and broadband service to fixed locations.</p> <p>In January 2017, the Commission conditionally waived the Phase II auction program rules to allocate up to \$170.4 million in Connect America Phase II support in certain eligible areas in New York in coordination with New York’s New NY Broadband Program. On Feb. 23, 2017, the Commission adopted the framework for the Mobility Fund Phase II and Tribal Mobility Fund Phase II auction, which will allocate up to \$4.53 billion over a 10-year support term to advance the deployment and maintenance of 4G LTE in certain rural areas.</p>
Additional Information	General information about the Connect America Fund: http://fcc.gov/encyclopedia/connecting-america

E-rate (Schools and Libraries) Program	
Program Overview	The E-rate Program provides discounts of up to 90 percent for broadband connectivity to and within elementary and secondary schools (public and private) and public libraries in rural and non-rural areas. Funding is provided through an annual application process with schools, libraries and consortia of schools and libraries applying for funding. A discount increase of up to 10 percentage points is available for schools and libraries in rural areas depending on the poverty level of the applicant. The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) administers the program on behalf of the FCC.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Eligible Recipients	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	In the last two funding years, the E-rate Program has funded \$5.6 billion in funding requests for connectivity to and within schools and libraries, including \$2.1 billion in support for the equipment needed to deploy Wi-Fi to students and library patrons in all 50 states. With new reforms adopted in 2014 aimed at providing tools and competitive options for purchasing fiber broadband connectivity, more schools and libraries get connected to high-speed broadband each year.
Additional Information	Applications to receive funding are accepted on an annual basis. FCC E-rate: https://www.fcc.gov/general/universal-service-program-schools-and-libraries-e-rate USAC: http://www.universalservice.org/sl/about/getting-started/default.aspx

Rural Health Care (RHC) Program													
Program Overview	<p>The RHC Program subsidizes connectivity for public and nonprofit health care providers, with a focus on rural areas, through two components: the Telecommunications Program and the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program. The Telecommunications Program provides support for telecommunications services. The HCF Program provides support for broadband connectivity, encourages the formation of state and regional broadband networks and expands the benefits of telemedicine nationwide. RHC is capped at \$400 million per funding year.</p> <p>Eligible applicants can be: (1) post-secondary educational institutions offering health care instruction, teaching hospitals and medical schools; (2) community health centers or health centers providing health care to migrants; (3) local health departments or agencies; (4) community mental health centers; (5) not-for-profit hospitals; (6) rural health clinics; (7) part-time eligible entities; (8) skilled nursing facilities; and (9) consortia of one or more of such entities. Applicants must also be non-profit or public health care providers.</p> <p>USAC administers the program on behalf of the FCC. Applicants submit requests for funding to USAC to receive support for eligible expenses.</p>												
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Broadband Benefits	<p>As of June 30, 2016, approximately \$157 million was requested in HCF Program support for funding year 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). Of the \$157 million requested, approximately \$109 million was requested by consortia.</p>												
Additional Information	<p>General information about the RHC Program: http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/rural-health-care</p> <p>Healthcare Connect Fund Order: http://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-releases-healthcare-connect-order</p> <p>USAC: http://www.universalservice.org/rhc/healthcare-connect/default.aspx</p>												



Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Telecommunications Program, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees	
Program Overview	This program provides funding for projects that offer new and improved telephone and broadband service in rural areas. Program financing may be used to fund the costs of construction, improvement, expansion and acquisition of systems or facilities; the acquisition of existing systems or another company; and the refinancing of loans from other lenders. Funds must be used in rural areas that are not located within an urbanized area or a place that has a population of greater than 5,000 inhabitants.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Eligible Recipients	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	Through this program, rural consumers can benefit from the same quality and range of telecommunications services that are available in urban and suburban communities.
Additional Information	Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans & Loan Guarantees Program: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-infrastructure-loans-loan-guarantees



Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees

Program Overview	<p>Created under the 2002 Farm Bill and reauthorized under the 2008 and 2014 Farm Bills, this program provides funding for projects that offer broadband service at or beyond specific broadband lending speeds, which are defined by RUS in the latest publication of the Federal Register.</p> <p>Program financing may be used to fund the costs of construction, improvement and acquisition of facilities; the cost of leasing facilities; the acquisition of existing systems or another company; and the refinancing of existing telecommunications loans. Funds must be used in rural areas that are not located within an urbanized area or a place that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants. At least 15 percent of the households in the applicant’s proposed funded service areas must have no access to existing broadband service as defined in the Federal Register.</p>
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Broadband Benefits	<p>Through this program, rural consumers can benefit from the same quality and range of telecommunications services that are available in urban and suburban communities.</p>
Additional Information	<p>Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/farm-bill-broadband-loans-loan-guarantees</p>

Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) Provisions	
Program Overview	The SUTA authorities offer special provisions to applicants whose proposed projects serve trust lands as described in the SUTA Final Rule published in the Federal Register on June 13, 2012 and effective July 13, 2012. In the Telecommunications Program, SUTA provisions only apply to the Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees Program and the Farm Bill Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees Program. These authorities allow the RUS Administrator to provide special consideration—including but not limited to lower interest rates and extended loan terms—to projects serving tribal lands.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Broadband Benefits	The SUTA provisions improve the availability of RUS telecommunications loan programs in trust areas determined to have a high need for telephone or broadband service. Under SUTA, RUS can offer loan interest rates as low as two percent, extend the time period in which loans are repaid and waive certain documentation requirements regarding non-duplication of service. Additionally, RUS can waive the matching funds or credit support requirements for loans and give funding priority to eligible projects.
Additional Information	SUTA Homepage: https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/initiatives/substantially-underserved-trust-area-suta

Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program													
Program Overview	<p>This highly competitive grant program provides funding for projects that improve access for residents in rural areas. Unlike other RUS telecommunications funding programs, the DLT Grant Program utilizes existing broadband networks and therefore does not fund broadband infrastructure.</p> <p>Grants may be used to fund the costs of purchasing eligible distance learning and telemedicine equipment and related instructional programming. Grantees must provide matching funds that are equal to at least 15 percent of the requested grant amount. The minimum grant amount that may be requested is \$50,000.</p>												
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Broadband Benefits	Through this grant program, the use of distance learning and telemedicine broadband applications provides rural community members with access to educational and medical resources that are located in different areas.												
Additional Information	DLT Grant Program: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants												



Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce

Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs													
Program Overview	<p>The Economic Development Administration’s mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. Given that broadband is an important ingredient in economic development strategies, EDA funding may be used to support broadband infrastructure projects under EDA’s Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance competitive grant programs, within certain parameters.</p> <p>EDA’s Public Works program helps distressed communities revitalize, expand and upgrade their physical infrastructure. This program enables communities to attract new industry; encourage business expansion; diversify local economies; and generate or retain long-term, private-sector jobs and investment. It facilitates these accomplishments through the acquisition or development of land and infrastructure improvements needed for the successful establishment or expansion of industrial or commercial enterprises.</p> <p>EDA’s Economic Adjustment Assistance program provides a wide range of technical, planning, public works and infrastructure assistance in regions experiencing adverse economic changes that may occur suddenly or over time. These adverse economic impacts may result from a steep decline in manufacturing employment following a plant closure, changing trade patterns, catastrophic natural disaster, a military base closure or environmental changes and regulations.</p> <p>Eligible applicants for either program must be a state, political subdivision of a state, district organization, Indian tribe, institution of higher education or non-profit acting in coordination with a political subdivision of a state. Also, in order for a project to be eligible for EDA support under these programs, the region needs to demonstrate that it is experiencing economic distress, defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ An unemployment rate that is, for the most recent 24-month period of which data is available, at least one percent greater than the national average unemployment rate; or ✦ Per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data is available, 80 percent or less of the national average per capita income; or ✦ A “special need” (certain unemployment or economic adjustment problems) as determined by EDA. <p>Proposals must be based on a locally developed Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) or equivalent document. Applicants also must demonstrate that the investment will help the community grow or strengthen its economy. Generally, the amount of the EDA investment may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project.</p>												
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Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs, *continued***Broadband Benefits**

The requested Fiscal Year 2017 funding was \$85 million for the Public Works program and \$50 million for the Economic Adjustment Assistance Program. For details, visit: https://www.eda.gov/pdf/EDA-FY-2017-Budget-Fact-Sheet_FINAL.pdf

Additional Information

Current Funding Opportunities: <http://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

Public Works: <http://www.eda.gov/pdf/about/Public-Works-Program-1-Pager.pdf>

Economic Adjustment Assistance: <http://www.eda.gov/pdf/about/Economic-Adjustment-Assistance-Program-1-Pager.pdf>

CEDS Content Guidelines: <http://www.eda.gov/ceds/>

EDA Contact Information: <http://www.eda.gov/contact/>

Planning and Local Technical Assistance Programs

<p>Program Overview</p>	<p>EDA also provides grants under its Planning and Local Technical Assistance programs, which may be of interest to those considering a broadband project. Through the Planning program, EDA provides assistance to eligible recipients to create regional economic development plans in order to stimulate and guide the economic development efforts of a community or region. To facilitate a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), EDA provides Partnership Planning grants to the designated planning organization (e.g., District Organization) serving EDA-designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs) throughout the Nation. These planning organizations are typically recognized by the State in which they reside as multi-jurisdictional councils of governments, regional commissions or planning and development centers. The two categories of the Planning Assistance program are: (1) planning investments for District Organizations, Indian Tribes and other eligible entities; and (2) short-term planning investments to states, sub-state planning regions and urban areas. Eligible activities under this program include developing, maintaining and implementing a CEDS and related short-term planning activities.</p> <p>The Local Technical Assistance program strengthens the capacity of local or state organizations and institutions to undertake and promote effective economic development programs through projects such as feasibility studies, impact analyses, disaster resiliency plans and project planning. The program helps analyze the feasibility of potential economic development projects, such as an industrial park or a high-technology business incubator. Feasibility studies are an effective tool for determining whether the market will support a particular activity or site. Because of these feasibility studies, many communities have subsequently received funding under EDA’s Public Works or Economic Development Assistance programs, or other federal and state programs, to implement those projects.</p> <p>For both Planning and Technical Assistance awards, the minimum EDA investment rate is 50 percent, and the maximum allowable EDA investment rate generally may not exceed 80 percent.</p>
<p>Program Purpose</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access </p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ </p>
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<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>The requested Fiscal Year 2017 funding was \$35 million for the Planning Program and \$12 million for the Local Technical Assistance Program. For details, visit: https://www.eda.gov/pdf/EDA-FY-2017-Budget-Fact-Sheet_FINAL.pdf</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>Current Funding Opportunities: http://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/</p> <p>Planning: http://www.eda.gov/pdf/about/Planning-Program-1-Page.pdf</p> <p>Local Technical Assistance: http://www.eda.gov/pdf/about/Local-TA-and-UC-Program-1-Page.pdf</p> <p>CEDS Content Guidelines: http://www.eda.gov/ceds/</p> <p>EDA Contact Information: http://www.eda.gov/contact/</p>



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs

Community Development Block Grants and Section 108 Loan Guarantees

Program Overview

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The CDBG program provides a critical funding stream for local development efforts and enables communities to leverage federal funds to stimulate private investment. The CDBG program's primary objective is to develop viable urban and rural communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment while expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate incomes. Authorized by Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, CDBG provides grants to units of general local government and states to create locally driven solutions to community and economic development challenges. CDBG activities are initiated and developed at the local level based on a community's perceptions of its local needs, its priorities and the potential benefits to the community.

Eligible CDBG grant recipients include states, units of general local government (cities, counties, towns, townships, parishes, villages) and the Insular Areas. By law, 70 percent of CDBG funds are provided to larger metropolitan governments under the Entitlement CDBG program; 30 percent of the funds are awarded to states for areas that do not qualify for Entitlement program funding. The four U.S. Insular Areas receive a total of \$7 million from the annual appropriation.

The Entitlement CDBG program provides annual, formula-based funding to over 1,200 metropolitan cities (principal cities of metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), or cities with populations of at least 50,000) and urban counties (counties in metropolitan areas with populations of at least 200,000, excluding the population within metropolitan cities). Each entitlement community receiving CDBG funds determines the activities it chooses to fund with its annual allocations and describes those activities in its annual Action Plan submission to HUD.

For other areas that do not qualify for Entitlement program funding, HUD awards annual, formula-based grants under the State CDBG program to 49 states plus Puerto Rico. States then distribute the funds to local governments for activities to be carried out at the local level. States are given broad flexibility to design and administer their own programs within statutory and regulatory parameters. The State of Hawaii permanently elected not to administer the State CDBG program, and, as a result, HUD awards CDBG funds directly to the three non-entitlement units of government in Hawaii.

CDBG recipients are able to choose from 28 different eligible activities, with the major categories being public facilities and improvements, public services, economic development, acquisition/clearance, housing and general administration and planning. In addition to being eligible, all CDBG-funded activities (other than general administration and planning) must also meet one of three statutorily-established national objectives:

1. Benefit low- and moderate-income persons;
2. Prevent or eliminate slums or blighting conditions; or
3. Address other urgent needs affecting community health and safety.

The primary national objective of the CDBG program is to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. By law, at least 70 percent of all CDBG funds expended by each Entitlement grantee, state or Insular Area during a period of up to three years established by the grantee must go toward activities that principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Broadband infrastructure development may be eligible in the CDBG program as a public facility or improvement, as a private utility or as a public service, depending on the nature and design of the project. Grants or loans given to for-profit businesses to support job creation or retention, including businesses involved in broadband deployment or other technologies, are eligible as economic development activities.

Broadband investments are most likely to meet the national objective of benefitting low- and moderate-income persons either by serving all of the residents of a primarily residential area in which at least 51 percent of the residents are of low and moderate incomes, or by creating or retaining jobs of which at least 51 percent are held by or made available to low- and moderate-income persons. In the CDBG program, low- and moderate-income is defined as 80 percent of the area median income, as adjusted for family size.



Community Development Block Grants and Section 108 Loan Guarantees, *continued*

<p>Program Overview, continued</p>	<p>Projects serving the residents of specific units of government, or individual neighborhoods therein, are generally more able to meet the national objective criteria for the low- and moderate-income benefit than are large-scale projects serving an entire metropolitan area or region of a state. It is generally difficult for a broadband telecommunications project to meet the national objective criteria for elimination of slum or blight or addressing an urgent need.</p> <p>The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program (Section 108)</p> <p>Section 108 is the loan guarantee component of the CDBG program. Section 108 provides communities with a source of financing for economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities and large-scale physical development projects. This flexibility makes it one of the most effective and important public investment tools that HUD offers to local governments. Section 108 helps local governments to transform a small portion of their CDBG funds into federally guaranteed loans large enough to pursue physical and economic revitalization projects capable of renewing entire neighborhoods. Such public investment is often needed to inspire private economic activity, providing the initial resources or simply the confidence that private firms and individuals may need to invest in distressed areas.</p> <p>States and units of general local government eligible to receive CDBG funds, and certain public entities designated by them, are eligible to apply for Section 108 loan guarantees. Eligible uses of Section 108 funding include most activities eligible under the CDBG program. For purposes of determining Section 108 eligibility, the CDBG rules and requirements also apply. All projects and activities must principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the elimination or prevention of slums and blight or meet urgent community needs.</p> <p>An entitlement public entity (and nonentitlement counties in Hawaii) may apply for up to five times the public entity's latest approved CDBG entitlement amount, minus any outstanding Section 108 commitments and/or principal balances of Section 108 loans. A state or nonentitlement public entity may apply for up to five times the latest approved CDBG amount received by its state, minus any outstanding Section 108 commitments and/or principal balances on Section 108 loans for which the state has pledged its CDBG funds as security. The maximum repayment period for a Section 108 loan is 20 years. HUD has the ability to structure the principal amortization to match the needs of the project and borrower.</p> <p>The principal security for the loan guarantee is a pledge by the applicant public entity or the state (in the case of a nonentitlement public entity) of its current and future CDBG funds. Additional security will also be required to collateralize the guaranteed obligations. The additional security requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of the Section 108 loan and the project financed. Section 108 obligations are financed permanently through periodic underwritten public offerings. Financing between public offerings is provided through an interim lending facility established by HUD.</p> <p>For Fiscal Year 2016, the Section 108 program began collecting fees from borrowers to offset the costs of Section 108 loan guarantees. The fee in the first year was estimated to be approximately 2.58 percent of the principal amount of the loan, which borrowers could pay up front in the guaranteed loan amount with CDBG funds or with guaranteed loan proceeds.</p>												
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<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>For Fiscal Year 2016, the CDBG program received \$3 billion in funding.</p>												
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>HUD's website for the CDBG and Section 108 programs: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs</p> <p>List of all CDBG recipients and their Fiscal Year 2016 award amounts: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/about/budget/budget16</p> <p>HUD Field Office Contacts: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cpd-field-office-directory/</p>												



Funds for Public Housing Authorities: Capital Fund and Operating Fund

Program Overview	<p>Public Housing Capital Fund can be used to open a Neighborhood Networks (NN) computer lab. Equipment, Internet connectivity, space renovation/remodeling, staff salary and insurance costs can be paid for using Capital Funds for the first year of the center’s operation. Subsequently, public housing authorities (PHAs) can use their Operating Funds for the continued operation of the NN center. However, any equipment upgrades over the life of the NN center would come from the Capital Fund. Similarly, PHAs can use their Capital Funds to purchase routers for individual units. However, neither Capital Funds nor Operating Funds can be used to pay for residents’ in-unit Internet access.</p> <p>Capital Fund may be used for the establishment and initial operation of an NN computer center and for such things as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Computer equipment (Capital Fund management improvement or Operating Fund) ✦ Equipment upgrades (over the life of the center from Capital Fund management improvement or Operating Fund) ✦ Space renovations (could be initial Capital Fund and later Capital Fund modernization expense) ✦ Internet connection and utilities (for initial operation of NN center) ✦ Staff salary (for initial operation of NN center) ✦ Insurance (for initial operation of NN center) ✦ Routers for individual units (not Internet connectivity) — initial Capital Fund expense, ongoing maintenance costs from Operating Fund. Installation of in-unit routers may not be targeted for a specific tenant or category of tenants but must be provided uniformly across one or more developments ✦ Statutory Authority: Capital Funds may be used for the initial operation of a Neighborhood Networks center per Section 9(d) Capital Fund (of the 1937 Housing Act as amended) subparagraph (1)(E). To view the statute: https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2015-title42/pdf/USCODE-2015-title42-chap8-subchapl-sec1437g.pdf <p>Operating Fund <i>must</i> be used for the ongoing costs of operating computer centers in public housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Ongoing Internet connection fees and utilities ✦ Staff salary ✦ Insurance ✦ Ongoing maintenance of in-unit routers ✦ Other activities related to the computer center (e.g., training programs) would be an Operating Fund expense ✦ Statutory Authority: Costs associated with the ongoing operation of an NN computer lab are specifically cited in the HUD statute as follows: Section 9(e) Operating Fund (of the 1937 Housing Act as amended) subparagraph (1)(K): the costs of operating computer centers in public housing through a Neighborhood Networks initiative described in subsection (d)(1) (E) of this section. To view the statute: https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2015-title42/pdf/USCODE-2015-title42-chap8-subchapl-sec1437g.pdf 		
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Broadband Benefits	<p>For Fiscal Year 2016, the Public Housing Capital Fund program received \$1.8 billion in funding, and the Public Housing Operating Fund received \$4.5 billion in funding.</p>		
Additional Information	<p>Capital Fund Rule References: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2013/10/24/2013-23230/public-housing-capital-fund-program New Capital Fund Rule, Overview Training: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWpULWYDx9E</p>		



Multifamily Housing

Multifamily Neighborhood Networks (NN) centers rely primarily on local support. The initiative encourages partnership development, business opportunities and other income-generating activities. To help support and sustain a center, HUD funding can be obtained from one or more of the following:

- + **Residual Receipts Account:** Residual Receipts accounts are found in properties owned by nonprofit and limited dividend owners. Funds from the Residual Receipts account may be used to fund a center to the extent that HUD determines that these funds are not required to maintain the habitability of units, meet other building needs or offset the Housing Assistance Payments contract. To the extent that Residual Receipts are available at a new regulation project, owners are allowed an initial reserve (“Retained Balance”) in an amount equivalent to \$250 per unit to use for project purposes. Please refer to: Notice 2012-14 (<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=12-14hsgn.pdf>) and Chapter 25 of the Multifamily Asset Management and Project Servicing Handbook 4350.1 (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_35309.pdf)
- + **Owner’s Equity:** The owner of a limited distribution property can increase the amount of the initial equity investment (and, in turn, the yield on distribution) by investing non-repayable funds in the center. A rent increase, however, will not be approved to provide for additional yield

Other Multifamily funding options include:

- + **Funds borrowed from the Reserve for Replacement Account:** Funds from the Reserve for Replacement Account may be used to fund a center as long as HUD determines that these funds are not required to meet anticipated repair and replacement needs. If this source of funding is used, a scheduled repayment plan that illustrates how the Reserve for Replacement Account will be replenished must be submitted. Please see Chapter 4 of the HUD Multifamily Asset Management and Project Servicing Handbook 4350.1 (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_35335.pdf)
- + **Rent increase:** The owner of a property at which rents are set under the budgeted rent increase process may request an increase to cover center costs. These increases may be approved at HUD’s discretion. For properties with Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act (MAHRA) contracts, there may be limitations on HUD’s ability to raise rents. Please go to Chapter 7 of the Multifamily Asset Management and Project Servicing Handbook 4350.1: (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_25304.pdf)
- + **Requesting a special rent adjustment:** Properties with rents that are set using the annual adjustment factor may request a special adjustment rent increase to cover costs of an NN center. These increases may be approved at HUD’s discretion and are subject to guidance in the Multifamily Asset Management and Project Servicing Handbook, 4350.1, Chapter 34 (http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_35329.pdf)
- + **Excess income:** For properties that generate excess income, HUD Notice 01-07 (Guidelines for Calculating and Retaining Section 236 Excess Income) authorizes the retention of excess income to help develop an NN center. (<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=01-7h.doc>)

Program Overview

Program Purpose

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Eligible Recipients

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Multifamily Housing, *continued*

<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>Through this program, 33 neighborhood centers have received “Model Neighborhood Network Center” classification. https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/hnw/hnwaboutnn/modelcenters</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>Notices of Funding Availability can be found here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail</p> <p>To utilize HUD funding for an NN center, talk with a HUD Account Executive in a Multifamily regional or satellite office. Visit http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states for contact information.</p>



Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program	
Program Overview	The ICDBG program provides funds to eligible grantees for housing rehabilitation, land acquisition, community facilities, infrastructure construction and economic development activities that benefit primarily low- and moderate-income persons. Eligible applicants for assistance include any Indian tribe, band, group or nation (including Alaska Indians, Aleut and Eskimos) or Alaska Native village, which has established a relationship to the Federal government as defined in the program regulations. In certain instances, tribal organizations may be eligible to apply. The Secretary of HUD may set aside five percent of each year's appropriation for noncompetitive, first-come, first-served funding of grants to eliminate or lessen problems that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Housing
Eligible Recipients	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	The ICDBG program provides eligible grantees with direct grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native Communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, community facilities and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons.
Additional Information	Fiscal Year 2017 Notice of Funding Availability can be found here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/2017icdbgnofa Program information can be found here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/grants/icdbg



Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program	
Program Overview	The Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA—see http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/codetalk/nahasda) established the IHBG program. This program is a formula-based grant program provided to federally-recognized Indian tribes or their tribally-designated housing entity (TDHE) and a limited number of state-recognized tribes that were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937. The grant amount received is determined annually based on the tribe’s current assisted housing stock and the need for additional low-income housing, as determined by population. Eligible activities include housing development, assistance to housing developed under the Indian Housing Program, housing services to eligible families and individuals, crime prevention, safety and model activities that provide creative approaches to solving affordable housing problems.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Housing
Eligible Recipients	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	The IHBG program is the largest federal housing program supporting the rehabilitation and development of affordable housing for low-income Native American communities.
Additional Information	An eligible recipient must submit to HUD an Indian Housing Plan (IHP) each year to receive funding. At the end of each year, recipients must submit to HUD an Annual Performance Report detailing their progress in meeting the goals and objectives included in their IHPs. Program information can be found here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/grants/ihbg



Title VI Loan Guarantee Program	
Program Overview	Also authorized under NAHASDA, the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program assists Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) recipients (borrowers) who want to finance eligible affordable housing activities but are unable to secure financing without the assistance of a federal guarantee. Borrowers pledge future IHBG grant funds as security for repayment of the loan obligation to a private lender or investor who then provides lump sum project financing. HUD provides a guarantee to the lender or investor to repay all or a portion of the unpaid principal balance and accrued interest if a borrower fails to repay the debt and a default is declared.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Housing
Eligible Recipients	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	The Title VI Loan Guarantee Program leverages IHBG funds and private investment to bring greater financial resources to the rehabilitation and development of housing for low-income Native American Communities.
Additional Information	<p>Program information can be found here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/homeownership/titlevi</p> <p>The application process is detailed here: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih/homeownership/titlevi/app</p>



Choice Neighborhoods			
Program Overview	<p>Choice Neighborhoods leverages significant public and private resources, enabling communities to transform disinvested neighborhoods that include distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing. Local leaders, residents, and stakeholders — such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers — come together to create and implement a holistic plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. Moving beyond bricks and mortar, these partners also create a roadmap to strengthen families’ self-sufficiency, health, and education. Through these grants, communities are replacing obsolete, distressed housing with vibrant mixed-income neighborhoods, and catalyzing critical investments in neighborhood assets, economic development, and schools. Choice Neighborhoods offers Planning Grants and Implementation Grants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Planning Grants assist communities in developing a successful neighborhood transformation plan and building support necessary for that plan to be successfully implemented ✦ Implementation Grants support those communities that have undergone a comprehensive local planning process and are ready to implement their “Transformation Plan” to redevelop the neighborhood <p>As part of this neighborhood revitalization, Choice Neighborhoods strongly encourages grantees to increase broadband connectivity. Grantees are required to build the infrastructure to support broadband Internet in all new units. Grantees can also use their funds to install broadband in these units and establish neighborhood broadband programs.</p>		
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Broadband Benefits	<p>From FY 2010 – FY 2016, HUD invested approximately \$633 million in Implementation Grants, which leveraged \$4.7 billion of additional resources.</p>		
Additional Information	<p>Program information can be found here: http://www.hud.gov/cn</p>		



HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)													
Program Overview	<p>The purpose of HOME Program formula grants are to expand the supply of decent affordable housing for low- and very low-income families and to strengthen the ability of State and local governments to design and implement housing strategies to meet their needs. Additionally, the grants' use is also to provide financial and technical assistance to State and local governments and to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and private sector. Participating jurisdictions may use HOME funds for rental or homeowner housing development, assistance to homebuyers, homeowner rehabilitation or tenant-based rental assistance.</p> <p>An update to the HOME final rule at 24 CFR Part 92 was published on July 24, 2013. Additionally, changes to Part 92 in Narrowing the Digital Divide Through Installation of Broadband Infrastructure in HUD-funded New Construction and Substantial Rehabilitation of Multifamily Rental Housing final rule was published on December 20, 2016.</p>												
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Broadband Benefits	<p>All HOME-funded new construction or substantial rehabilitation of multifamily (more than 4 units) rental housing projects with HOME commitments on or after January 19, 2017 must include the installation of broadband infrastructure unless the grantee determines that the location, cost, or structure of the building make such installation infeasible. At this time, HUD's reporting system has not been updated to track the number of HOME-assisted units with broadband infrastructure.</p>												
Additional Information	<p>The installation of broadband infrastructure is only eligible as part of a new construction or rehabilitation project. Any housing rehabilitated with HOME funds must be brought up to code; therefore, minor repair or broadband installation programs alone are not eligible. Only the cost of broadband infrastructure on the housing unit or project site is eligible. The grantee may only make off-site connections from the property line to the adjacent street.</p> <p>For more program information, visit: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/programs/home/</p>												



Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

Program Overview	<p>The Housing Trust Fund provides grants to States: 1) to increase and preserve the supply of rental housing for extremely low- and very low-income families, including homeless families; and 2) to increase homeownership for extremely low- and very low-income families, limited to no more than 10 percent of each formula allocation.</p> <p>The HTF interim rule was published on January 30, 2015. Additionally, changes to Part 93 in Narrowing the Digital Divide Through Installation of Broadband Infrastructure in HUD-funded New Construction and Substantial Rehabilitation of Multifamily Rental Housing final rule published on December 20, 2016.</p>												
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Broadband Benefits	<p>All HTF-funded new construction or substantial rehabilitation of multifamily (more than four units) rental housing projects with HTF commitments on or after January 19, 2017 must include the installation of broadband infrastructure unless the grantee determines that the location, cost or structure of the building make such installation unfeasible. At this time, HUD's reporting system has not been updated to track the number of HTF-assisted units with broadband infrastructure.</p>												
Additional Information	<p>The installation of broadband infrastructure is only eligible as part of a new construction or rehabilitation project. Any housing rehabilitated with HTF funds must be brought up to code. Therefore, minor repair or broadband installation programs alone are not eligible. Only the cost of broadband infrastructure on the housing unit or project site is eligible. The grantee may only make off-site connections from the property line to the adjacent street.</p> <p>For more program information, visit: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/htf/</p>												



Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)													
Program Overview	<p>The HOPWA Program is the only federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the HOPWA Program, HUD makes grants to local communities, state and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.</p> <p>When HOPWA funds are utilized for Significant Rehabilitation of a facility, based on the definition in HOPWA regulations, funds can be used for installing broadband for a housing facility’s common areas. HOPWA New Construction dollars can also be used to pay for broadband installation when constructing a multifamily HOPWA housing structure, including single room occupancy structures.</p>												
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Broadband Benefits	<p>The HOPWA Program dispersed approximately \$301 million in grant funds for Fiscal Year 2016. For details, visit: https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/allocations-awards</p>												
Additional Information	<p>For more program information, visit: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hopwa/</p>												



Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

American Job Centers

Program Overview

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) within the U.S. Department of Labor administers and oversees a number of programs designed to assist youth, adults and dislocated workers who are unemployed, underemployed, low-skilled or economically disadvantaged to obtain career services and job training needed to enter or progress in the labor market. These programs are also designed to ensure that American business has the skilled workforce needed to compete in the 21st century economy.

ETA fulfills a wide range of leadership and administrative responsibilities relating to employment services, job training and unemployment insurance. ETA funds a number of employment and training programs (through annual allocation formula and periodic discretionary grant competitions) that enable workers to attain the skills needed for employment. Additionally, ETA administers a Federal-State employment service system that helps people find jobs and employers find workers. The agency also offers wage replacement programs for workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own, such as the Unemployment Insurance (UI) and the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs.

Special efforts are made to address the unique job market problems of groups having difficulty entering or returning to the work force, such as transitioning service members, older workers, out-of-school youth, displaced homemakers and individuals with disabilities. ETA is also responsible for promoting apprenticeship opportunities and conducting programs of research, development and evaluation.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), signed into law on July 22, 2014, represents the first legislative reform of the public workforce system in 15 years. The law supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and amends the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the Wagner-Peyser Act and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

WIOA presents a significant opportunity to improve job and career options for our nation's workers and jobseekers through an integrated, job-driven public workforce system that links diverse talent to businesses. In its drafting of the new law, Congress reaffirmed the role of the American Job Center (AJC) system, a cornerstone of the public workforce investment system, and brought together and enhanced several key employment, education and training programs. In recent years, over 16 million people annually turn to these programs to obtain good jobs and a pathway to the middle class. The services are provided to jobseekers and employers through a network of over 2,400 American Job Centers. America's Service Locator offers a profile of each of these Centers, describing location, hours of operation and services provided.

WIOA reinforces the partnerships and strategies necessary for the Centers to provide job seekers and workers with the high-quality career and supportive services that they need to get good jobs and stay employed. The Centers also use these partnerships and strategies to help businesses find skilled workers and access other support, including education and training for their current workforce.

The new law became effective on July 1, 2015. The Departments of Labor and Education have drafted five Notices of Proposed Rulemaking that will govern WIOA. These were published in the Federal Register in April 2015. The final rules were published on August 19, 2016. (see <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/08/19/2016-15977/workforce-innovation-and-opportunity-act-joint-rule-for-unified-and-combined-state-plans-performance>)

Use of Technology and Broadband

The American Job Centers rely on technology to ensure that the customers and patrons of the "resource rooms" have access to the Internet for quality workforce information, resume preparation, job search and career exploration. As their funding permits, some Centers have installed broadband connections to accelerate and expedite these processes. For many low-income customers who cannot afford Internet access, these Centers — along with public libraries in the community — have become a destination for navigating and discovering opportunities in the local labor market.



American Job Centers, *continued*

<p>Program Purpose</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Job training</p>
<p>Eligible Recipients</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>
<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>Broadband can be both an asset and beneficiary under ETA's investments. For example, ETA's discretionary grant competitions have recognized that various industries are being transformed by technology and innovation, requiring new skill sets for workers. Several of the agency's solicitations in recent years have noted: "Fields like information technology, advanced manufacturing, wireless and broadband deployment, transportation and warehousing, and biotechnology may be high growth and emerging industries in specific regional economies, offering jobs and solid career paths left vacant due to a lack of qualified workers." If a consortium of applicants, for example, seeks funding for training at risk-youth under a discretionary grant competition, it may propose to use broadband as a tool to meet the purposes of the training and education component of that program. Broadband and distance learning have both supply and demand implications in America's labor market. They can support the preparation of a new generation of workers, the retraining of current workers and the expanding of requirements to meet the needs of employers in the information technology sector.</p> <p>The Department of Labor recognizes the importance of broadband and information technology as regions of the country are impacted by declining employment in particular industries. In Eastern Kentucky, for example, Bit Source has an initial mission to recruit dislocated former coal industry workers, retrain them as computer coders and put them to work in coding jobs. Once successfully trained as junior coders, these workers will then have full-time positions at Bit Source performing coding work that the company secures under contracts with outside clients. Bit Source reflects the principles of the Administration's TechHire initiative as it is an example of the type of innovation that can occur through the strength of public-private partnerships and calculated risk taking. A group of private investors that have invested in the development of the company and Department of Labor resources are helping to pay for the worker/trainee wages and training costs — united in a strategy of "insourcing" IT jobs to rural America. These types of targeted investments under "Coal to Coding," along with many others like them, will both support and benefit broadband extension.</p>	



American Job Centers, *continued*

Additional Information

ETA's principal webpage for the public: <http://www.doleta.gov>

ETA policy guidance and information notices for the workforce system: <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives>

WIOA resources (law, regulations, policy guidance, technical assistance): www.doleta.gov/wioa

Description of ETA's seven budget accounts: <http://www.doleta.gov/budget/acctstr2.cfm>

ETA's Fiscal Year 2017 budget request: <https://www.doleta.gov/budget/17bud.cfm>

ETA's partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS): <http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/ten2009/ten50-09acc.pdf>

Available ETA funding opportunities: http://www.doleta.gov/grants/find_grants.cfm. These solicitations can be reviewed for references to infrastructure, technology and broadband

Webinars and other content related to the National Broadband Plan can be found at www.workforcegps.org and www.doleta.gov/usworkforce

The Innovation and Opportunity Network (ION) (www.workforcegps.org) is a community of practitioners, program staff, partners, planners, industry leaders and stakeholders that strive for system improvement, capacity building and excellence in the public workforce system. The ION is a national, regional, state and local alliance that makes available the technical assistance, information sharing and training needed to implement the vision of the WIOA.

State Combined and Unified WIOA Strategic Plans were approved in June 2016. They are available for access and review at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rfa/wioa/state-plans/index.html>

State WIOA annual reports referencing infrastructure, technology and broadband can be found at http://www.doleta.gov/performance/results/AnnualReports/annual_report.cfm

Note: Under the Workforce Investment Act (and now under WIOA), states are obligated to report to ETA on an annual basis on the various activities conducted under the federal funding. States often comment on initiatives or projects in these reports that benefit from the application of technology.

America's Service Locator: www.servicelocator.org



Office of Library Services
Institute of Museum and Library Services

Native American Library Services Basic Grants	
Program Overview	The Native American Library Services Basic Grant is noncompetitive and distributed in equal amounts among eligible applicants. Basic Grants are available to support existing library operations and to maintain core library services. Indian tribes, Alaska native villages, regional corporations and village corporations are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services grant program. The Education/ Assessment Option is supplemental to the Basic Grants. It is also noncompetitive and must be requested. The purpose of the Education/Assessment Option is to provide funding for library staff to attend continuing education courses and training workshops, library staff to attend or give presentations at conferences related to library services and the library to hire a consultant for an on-site professional library assessment.
Program Purpose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Eligible Recipients	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	The Basic Grant amounts range from \$6,000 to \$7,000.
Additional Information	Fiscal Year 2017 Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.ims.gov/foia/native-american-library-services-basic-grants-fy17-notice-funding-opportunity Native American Library Services – Basic Grants Webpage: https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/native-american-library-services-basic-grants



Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants													
Program Overview	The Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants are competitive and available to support activities that advance the operations of eligible Native American libraries to new levels of service. Indian tribes, Alaska native villages, regional corporations and village corporations are eligible to apply for funding under the Native American Library Services grant program. Enhancement Grant awards are given up to \$150,000, subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion.												
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Broadband Benefits	The Enhancement Grant amounts range from \$10,000 to \$150,000.												
Additional Information	<p>Fiscal Year 2016 Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.ims.gov/nofo/native-american-library-services-enhancement-grants-fy16-notice-funding-opportunity</p> <p>Native American Library Services – Enhancement Grants Webpage: https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/native-american-library-services-enhancement-grants</p>												



Native Hawaiian Library Services Grants

<p>Program Overview</p>	<p>The Native Hawaiian Library Services Grants are competitive grants available to support activities that enhance existing library services or implement new library services. Grants are available to nonprofit organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians. Grant awards are anticipated to be up to \$150,000, subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion.</p> <p>What types of activities can be funded by these three programs?</p> <p>The Native American Library Services Basic and Enhancement Grant and Native Hawaiian Library Services Grant projects may enhance existing library services or implement new library services, particularly as they relate to the following goals in the updated Museum and Libraries Services Act (20 U.S.C. §9141):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Expanding services for learning and access to information and educational resources in a variety of formats, in all types of libraries, for individuals of all ages in order to support such individuals’ needs for education, lifelong learning, workforce development and digital literacy skills ✦ Establishing or enhancing electronic and other linkages and improved coordination among and between libraries and entities, as described in 20 U.S.C. §9134(b)(6), for the purpose of improving the quality of and access to library and information services ✦ Providing training and professional development, including continuing education, to enhance the skills of the current library workforce and leadership, advance the delivery of library and information services, and enhance efforts to recruit future professionals to the field ✦ Developing public and private partnerships with other agencies and community-based organizations ✦ Targeting library services to individuals of diverse geographic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, individuals with disabilities and individuals with limited functional literacy or information skills ✦ Targeting library and information services to persons having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 9902(2) of title 42) applicable to a family of the size involved ✦ Developing library services that provide all users access to information through local, state, regional, national and international collaborations and networks ✦ Carrying out other activities consistent with the purposes of the Library Services and Technology subchapter of the IMLS statute (20 U.S.C. §9121). 												
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<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>The Native Hawaiian Library Service Grant amounts range from \$10,000 to \$150,000.</p>												
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>Fiscal Year 2017 Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.ims.gov/nofo/native-hawaiian-library-services-grant-fy17-notice-funding-opportunity</p> <p>Native American Library Services Webpage: https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/native-hawaiian-library-services</p>												



Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program			
Program Overview	<p>The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program supports professional development, graduate education and continuing education to help libraries and archives develop the human capital capacity that they need to meet the changing learning and information needs of the American public. Libraries that fulfill the general criteria (see http://www.ims.gov/applicants/libraries.aspx) may apply.</p> <p>The funding categories are: 1) Project Grants; 2) Research Grants; 3) Planning Grants: up to \$50,000; and 4) National Forum Grants: up to \$100,000. Project and research awards are from \$50,000 to \$500,000, subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion.</p> <p>There are six project categories: 1) Continuing Education; 2) Programs to Build Institutional Capacity (Only eligible graduate programs in Library and Information Science or School Library Media may apply to this category); 3) Doctoral Programs; 4) Master’s Programs; 5) Research; and 6) Early Career Development. IMLS encourages internships and residency programs and is especially interested in increasing diversity in professional employment in libraries and archives.</p>		
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Broadband Benefits	Grants can range from \$50,000-\$1,000,000 depending on the grant type and project needs.		
Additional Information	Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Information and Application Deadlines: https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/laura-bush-21st-century-librarian-program?GrantId=9		



National Leadership Grants for Libraries

<p>Program Overview</p>	<p>National Leadership Grants for Libraries support projects that address challenges faced by the library and archive fields and that have the potential to advance practice in those fields. Successful proposals will generate results such as new tools, research findings, models, services, practices or alliances that can be widely used, adapted, scaled or replicated to extend the benefits of federal investment. Libraries that fulfill the general criteria (see http://www.ims.gov/applicants/libraries.aspx) may apply.</p> <p>The funding categories are: 1) Project Grants; 2) Research Grants; 3) Planning Grants up to \$50,000; and 4) National Forum Grants up to \$100,000. Project and research awards are from \$10,000-\$2,000,000, subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion. The two project categories/funding priorities are: 1) National digital platform; and 2) Learning spaces in libraries.</p> <p>What types of activities can be funded under National Digital Platform?</p> <p>IMLS is interested in proposals that will support a national digital platform, providing expanded and improved digital content and services to all users in the United States. Libraries have made important advancements in this area over the past 20 years, but much of that work was experimental or isolated. IMLS wants to bridge gaps between disparate pieces of the existing digital library infrastructure for increased efficiencies, cost-savings, access and services.</p> <p>What types of activities can be funded under Learning Spaces in Libraries?</p> <p>IMLS is interested in work that builds institutional capacity, engages community and encourages partnerships to support all types of learning and inquiry, including participatory and hands-on learning, in libraries. Since IMLS cannot fund the development and installation of learning spaces, proposals should focus on how to support and enhance libraries' abilities to make their own decisions and investments.</p>
<p>Program Purpose</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>
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<p>Broadband Benefits</p>	<p>Grants can range from \$25,000-\$2,000,000 depending on the grant type and project needs.</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program Information and Application Deadlines: https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-libraries?GrantId=14</p>



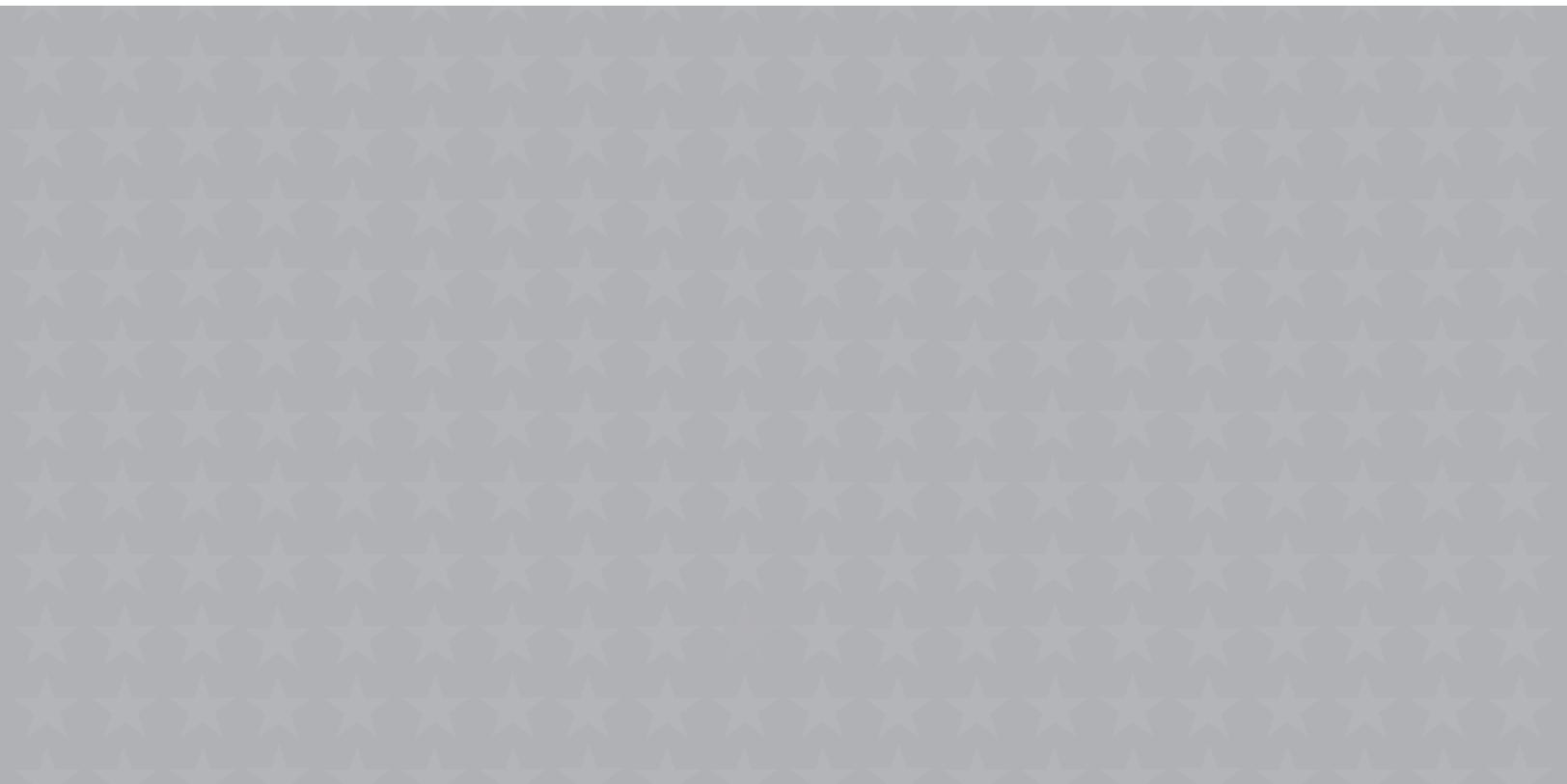
Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries	
Program Overview	Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries are a special funding opportunity within the IMLS National Leadership Grants for Libraries program. These small grants encourage libraries and archives to prototype and evaluate specific innovations in the ways that they operate, the services they provide and their organizational practices. Applicants may propose activities or approaches that involve risk, but the project results—be they success, failure or a combination thereof—must offer valuable information to the library or archives fields, promise an impact beyond the applicant’s institution and provide the potential for improvement in the ways that libraries and archives serve their communities. Grantees are required to submit a short white paper, which will be publicly posted and shared. Libraries that fulfill the general criteria (see http://www.imls.gov/applicants/libraries.aspx) may apply. The characteristics of successful Sparks! Grants projects are: 1) Broad Impacts; 2) In-depth Knowledge; 3) Innovative Approach; and 4) Shared Benefits.
Program Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adoption & Digital Literacy <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Eligible Recipients	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Operators <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Broadband Benefits	Grants can range from \$10,000-\$25,000 depending on availability of funds and IMLS discretion.
Additional Information	Fiscal Year 2016 Notice of Funding Opportunity: https://www.imls.gov/hofo/sparks-ignition-grants-libraries-fy16-notice-funding-opportunity Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries Program Information: https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/sparks-ignition-grants-libraries?GrantId=19

CONTACT US

NTIA's BroadbandUSA program is dedicated to helping communities achieve their broadband mission. BroadbandUSA can offer assistance to communities as they plan for broadband efforts, including stakeholder outreach activities. If you have additional questions about the information contained in this Toolkit, please contact us at broadbandusa@ntia.doc.gov or 202-482-2048.

ABOUT NTIA

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is the Executive Branch agency principally responsible for advising the President on telecommunications and information policy issues. NTIA's programs and policymaking focus largely on expanding broadband Internet access and adoption in America, expanding the use of spectrum by all users, and ensuring that the Internet remains an engine for continued innovation and economic growth.



JUNE 2017

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National Telecommunications and Information Administration
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T: [@NTIAgov](https://twitter.com/NTIAgov)

